



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Contact: Ron Trumbla
817-978-1111 ext. 140

For Immediate Release
December 6, 2010

NWS Southern Region Employees Receive National/Regional Isaac Cline Awards

Two National Weather Service Southern Region employees were selected to receive national Isaac M. Cline Awards.

Meteorologist Timothy Erickson of the forecast office in Slidell, La. was honored in the Meteorology category. He was recognized for providing thousands of critical weather briefings from the Incident Command Center in Houma to federal responders working the Deepwater Horizon oil spill incident.

Warning Coordination Meteorologist Dan Noah of the forecast office in Tampa Bay, Fla. was recognized in the Outreach category for demonstrating exceptional leadership in collaborating with emergency response officials to mitigate coastal inundation and storm surge impacts.

In addition to the national awards, regional award recipients are chosen in a range of special categories. Presented to individuals and teams, the awards identify and recognize employees for operational excellence in the delivery of products and services in support of the National Weather Service mission. Southern Region award recipients for 2010 include:

- **Leadership:** Roger Erickson, warning coordination meteorologist, Lake Charles, La. forecast office
- **Hydrology:** Paul McKee, senior hydrologist, West Gulf River Forecast Center, Fort Worth, Texas
- **Hydrometeorology:** Meteorologists Gregory Wilk, Jason Runyen and Michael Buchanan, Corpus Christi, Texas forecast office
- **Electronics, Facilities and Engineering:** Electronic Systems Analyst Paul Shaafsma and Electronic Technicians Oferal Wise and David Wilburn, Amarillo, Texas forecast office
- **Program Management and Administration:** Hydrologist Patrick Sneeringer, West Gulf River Forecast Center
- **Support Services:** Administrative Assistant Cheryl Sutherlan, Corpus Christi forecast office
- **Diversity:** Hydrologist Patricia Brown, Slidell forecast office

The prestigious Isaac M. Cline Awards are named for the man whose courage and dedication is credited with saving thousands of lives during the Galveston, Texas hurricane of 1900. Cline was in charge of the forecast office in Galveston when the popular coastal city was struck with the deadliest natural disaster in the nation's history. The death toll exceeded 8,000, but could have been much higher if not for his acute understanding of the weather and his early hurricane warnings in an era when meteorology was in its infancy and ship-to-shore communications were non-existent.

The National Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories. It operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. Visit us online at weather.gov and on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/US.National.Weather.Service.gov>.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/usnoaagov>.

###